

We therefore submit to your Consideration whether it should be required of us to sustain the whole Loss; more especially as most, if not all, of the subscribers had no idea of losing more than the interest of their money, & larger sums were advanced by some on that supposition than might otherwise have been prudent. You must, we are persuaded, be sensible our only object was to furnish those supplies which we had reason to believe you could not procure by any other means. The ship unfortunately had a long passage, & when she arrived, it seems, the Cargo was damaged, the markets fallen, & the provisions sold, as purchasers could be found, on account of the subscribers. The design was by these means, in a considerable degree, defeated; the benefit yielded was small, & the loss on the original cost heavy. The subscribers desiring no gain, yet expecting some time or other to be reimbursed the original expence, received with some surprise the intelligence that more than one half of their subscription was lost in the sale of the several articles. We however by no means desire to urge you to repay us by distressing yourselves. On the contrary, if the difficulties in which you have been so long involved disable you from bearing a share in the sale of this cargo, we hope to prevail with the rest of the subscribers to this loan (of whom we are but a few) to content themselves with the nett proceeds according to the account of sales inclosed in your last Letter: For, as we sincerely sympathize with you in the long series of trials to which you have been, & probably yet are, exposed, it is far from our intention, by this representation of our original views, to give you pain or to aggravate your distress, which we earnestly wish, if it seem good to the allwise Disposer of events, may

Joseph H. Benton, Ed.
Oct. 17, 1788
BLondon 3mo 8th 1782

Dear Friends

We have received your favour of the 15th of 12mo 1780 covering Account of Sales of the Cargo sent you of the Mary & Charlotte Capt. John Bernard, producing £2327. 11s. 8 Sterling, which leaves a Loft exclusive of Interest of £2339. — The mode adopted for the sale we are well persuaded was judicious, & we have no doubt of your assiduity in conducting it.

The tenor of your correspondence implies that this Loft is to be considered as ours. We think it however not improper to state our views on shipping the Cargo, & our inducements to such an intention prior to the receipt of your directions.

The information of several intelligent Friends who arrived from your province occasioned Friends here to apprehend that you might, from the distressful situation of that time, be exposed to the want of necessary provisions; yet it was, at the same time, understood that there was an equal willingness & ability to pay for them, if not immediately, at least at some more convenient period. Subscriptions were accordingly invited & collected for furnishing a Supply in the mode thus pointed out, the propriety of which received further confirmation from your letter of 12mo 16th 1777, in which you engage to reimburse the advances to be made on account of a cargo therein described so soon as you are in a capacity to do it. At the time of receiving this Letter the intended Cargo was nearly ready, expedition being supposed necessary to obtain the object sought, & we apprehended that though it was not exact to your description, it was sufficiently near to answer the proposed purpose. We advised you accordingly, & on the receipt of the invoice you did not disapprove our resolution.

We

be entirely removed.

With the salutation of Love we remain sincerely
Your Affectionate Friends

David Barclay.

Timothy Bevan

Thos. Corbryn
Dan. Mudd
John Chorley.

Mr. Howard
John Wright
Jos. Hooper
Isaac Walker
Rich. Chester
Morris Birkbeck

Copy

John Reynolds, Samuel Emilen.,
Adel James, John Drinker,
William Fisher, Owen Jones,
Robt. Waln, Nicholas Waln.

